

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00554 171710Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W
----- 050092

P R 171615Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1732

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0554

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PFOR GV US AO CU PU SF OAU

SUBJECT: CONAKRY MINI-SUMMIT STUDIES NEXT STEPS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CONAKR 00554 171710Z

REF: (A) CONAKRY 0540 (NOTAL), (B) CONAKRY 0541 (NOTAL), (C)
CONAKRY 0485 (NOTAL)

1. MARCH 14-15 MEETING IN CONAKRY OF FIDEL CASTRO, AGOSTINHO NETO, LUIS CABRAL AND SEKOU TOURE WAS AT SEKOU TOURE'S SOLE INITIATIVE AND GUTS SPOTLIGHT ON HIM AS "PROGRESSIVE" AFRICAN LEADER TO BE RECKONED WITH. HIS "MINI-SUMMIT" WAS NOT AS LARGE AS HE WOULD HAVE LIKED; ABSENCE OF MOZAMBIQUE'S SAMORA MACHEL IN PARTICULAR MAY HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT. NEVERTHELESS, TOURE MANAGED TO BRING TOGETHER ALL OF STATES THAT SENT MILITARY CONTINGENTS TO FIGHT WITH MPLA IN ANGOLA (WITH NOTEABLE EXCEPTION OF USSR, PROBABLY THE REAL WINNER IN RECENT EVENTS). OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF MEETING, AS STATED EXPLICITLY IN COMMUNIQUE (REF B) WAS TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS OF ENTIRELY NEW SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: PRESENCE OF FULL DIVISION VERY WELL TRAINED AND VERY WELL ARMED TROOPS THAT ARE READY AND TO SOME EXTENT CAPABLE OF UPSETTING POWER BALANCES THAT HAVE EXISTED THERE FOR SOME TIME.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN PAST INDICATIONS THAT PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE, REFLECTING CONCERNS OF OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS, HAS BEEN CASTING ABOUT FOR MEANS OF PERMITTING WITHDRAWAL OF CUBAN/SOVIET POWER FROM ANGOLA. THUS HE DISPATCHED CONTINGENT OF GUINEAN TROOPS, (AS DID CABRAL IN GUINEA-BISSAU) AND CLEARLY ATTEMPTED TO PERSUADE OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS TO FOLLOW SUIT (SEE CONAKRY 0485). BUT NOW, STUDYING SUCCESS OF SOVIET-CASTRO EFFORTS, AND GRATITUDE OF MANY (THOUGH NOT ALL) AFRICAN LEADERS FOR CASTRO'S ASSISTANCE IN ANGOLA, HE, AND OTHERS, MAY BE TAKING A NEW LOOK. ONE STRIKING ASPECT OF CONAKRY SUMMIT WAS OBVIOUS EFFORT TO GAVE CASTRO PRESENCE IN ANGOLA AN AFRICAN COVER. CASTRO HIMSELF STRESSED THIS, AND ALL OTHERS SPOKE OF GUINEA/GUINEA-BISSAU/CUAN ASSISTANCE TO MPLA, WITHOUT PARTICULARLY SINGLING OUT CUBA. NOTEWORTHY THAT SOVIETS WERE MENTIONED ONLY IN PASSING.

3. JUDGING FROM COMMUNIQUE AND SPEECHES, IMMEDIATE GOAL OF MPLA AND RADICAL SUPPORTERS IS TO CLEAR SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS OUT OF REMAINING ANGOLAN TERRITORY THEY STILL OCCUPY. CASTRO CAME CLOSE TO DELIVERING ULTIMATUM THAT HYDROELECTRIC DAM WOULD BE DESTROYED IF SOUTH AFRICA TURNED AREA IN TO BATTLEFIELD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CONAKR 00554 171710Z

(I.E., REFUSED TO WITHDRAW). SECONDARY GOALS APPEAR TO BE EXPLOITATION OF NEW POWER SITUATION TO CREATE ADDITIONAL STRESSES IN NAMIBIA, ZIMBABWE, AND EVENTUALLY SOUTH AFRICA.

4. SEKOU TOURE HAS OTHER, NOT UNRELATED, DEVELOPMENTS IN MIND, WHICH HAVE BEEN GOAL OF GUINEA'S AFRICAN POLICY EVER SINCE OAU SUMMIT REFUSED TO SUPPORT MPLA. DIRECTION OF GUINEA'S DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS OVER PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, INCLUDING MINISTERIAL

VISITS TO ALL PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN STATES, HAS BEEN TOWARD CREATION OF "PROGRESSIVE" AND "REVOLUTIONARY" BLOC THAT COULD DOMINATE AND GUIDE OAU. GUINEA STILL HOPES TO HOLD SUMMIT OF AFRICAN PROGRESSIVES IN CONAKRY AS EARLY AS NEXT MONTH. MARCH 14-15 MINI-SUMMIT WAS STEP IN THIS DIRECTION. TOURE WOULD OBVIOUSLY WISH TO PLAY VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN, EVEN TO LEAD, THIS NEW MOVEMENT. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR HIM, THEREFORE, THAT IT TAKE PLACE IN CONAKRY AND NOT ELSEWHERE, SINCE HE WILL NOT TRAVEL. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT OTHER AFRICAN "PROGRESSIVES" ARE AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPAL TO SUCH A SUMMIT, BUT HESITATE TO COME TO CONAKRY, PARTIALLY BECAUSE OF EXTENSIVE SOVIET PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE HERE. LATTER VIEW WAS RECENTLY EXPRESSED BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR, ANDRE LEWIN, WHO REPORTS THAT LIBYA HAS SUGGESTED SUMMIT IN TRIPOLI RATHER THAN CONAKRY.

5. WHATEVER, MAY BE OUTCOME OF THESE EFFORTS, CASTRO SPOKE TRULY IN STATING (REFTEL A) THAT SEKOU TOURE "IS NO LONGER ISOLATED AND NO LONGER ALONE." LONG A HERMIT IN ISOLATED CONAKRY, HIS INFLUENCE IS INCREASING AND MUST NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

MACDONALD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, SUMMIT MEETINGS, BALANCE OF POWER, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CONAKR00554
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760100-1113
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760353/aaaabufj.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CONAKRY 540
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONAKRY MINI-SUMMIT STUDIES NEXT STEPS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GV, US, AO, CU, PU, SF, XY, OAU, (CASTRO, FIDEL), (TOURE, SEKOU), (NETO, AGOSTINHO), (CABRAL, LUIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006